

"Church Records and Statistics" were discussed by J. L. Gillin.

Committee on resolutions was appointed as follows: J. O. Talley, J. L. Gillin, C. Rowland.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING

After singing the meeting was opened at 7:30 by devotional service conducted by J. A. Myers. Clara Flora spoke on the topic "Pastoral Responsibility" and also on Brother Livengood's topic "Relation of members to the Pastor."

R. R. Teeter spoke briefly on "The Institutions of the Church—Missions, College and Publishing House." After a song, a sermon from John 16:7-11 was preached by J. L. Gillin.

The cause of the Mission Board of the District was presented by J. O. Talley and a collection taken which amounted to \$9.00.

Meeting dismissed by J. L. Gillin.

## THURSDAY MORNING

Devotions conducted by I. J. Thomas. Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

Report of Secretary of Mission Board was then read by Eli Hoover.

On motion the District Evangelist presented his report before the secretary, report was discussed.

## REPORT OF SECRETARY, DISTRICT MISSION BOARD

	R.R. Fare	Coll.
Dec. 8, 1898, Brooklyn, Ia.,	\$ 5 09	\$ 6 91
" 9 11, " Millersburg, Ia.,	95	4 26
Millersburg Mission Barrels,		7 49
" Cath. Myers, contribution,		6 00
Dec. 12, 13, Udell Iowa,	1 35	8 68
Dec. 15-18, Leon, "	2 40	9 16
Dec. 15 18, Dallas Center, Iowa,	1 72	5 90
Dallas Center, to Chicago,	7 33	
April 28, Cerro Gordo, Ill.,	2 80	1 50
April 29, Astoria, Ill.,	2 90	16 00
May 11, Auburn, Ill.,	3 44	16 93
May 15, Cornell, Ill.,	2 23	1 00
Cornell to Chicago,	2 23	
May 29, Brooklyn, Iowa,	4 59	6 00
June 8, Udell, Iowa,	1 33	5 00
Udell to Chicago,	4 85	
	\$ 45 98	\$ 94 83
Balance,		\$ 50 85
Nov., from Dist. Board, per D. S. Lichty,		\$ 55 00
Dec., Lanark Sunday school,		35 63
Dec., D. S. Arnold, Lanark, Ill.,		1 00
Dec., Mrs. Elias Lichty, Lanark,		1 00
Dec., C. Rowland, "		2 00
March 1899, C. Rowland, "		24 00
April " Dist. Board, per D. S. Lichty,		
(order Hoover,)		27 00
July, District Board, collections Lanark and		
Milledgeville,		20 00
July, church Auburn, Ill.,		4 65
July, a friend, Aurelia, Iowa,		5 00
	\$ 226 13	

## REPORT OF DISTRICT EVANGELIST

It is not without some degree of pleasure that I am before you to report at another conference my work of the past year, which has not been all that I wish it to have been, but all I could do with the means at my disposal. With me it has been a busy year, and I praise the Lord for the success which has attended my efforts, tho it seems little, yet the judgment day will reveal it great or small, for we cannot tell here.

Last December, I visited Brooklyn, Udell, and Leon Congregation, also Dallas Center. My visit to Brooklyn and Udell, was in the matter of securing for them pastors, and preaching. Leon and Dallas Center, I visited to lay our work before them. My first visit to Brooklyn was ineffectual so far as securing for them a pastor was concerned, but at that time I preached for them ten sermons, to good houses, and good interest, and I think built up the cause among them. I again visited Brooklyn in May last, and ordained Brother W. J. Hannan, as their pastor, and I was pleased recently to receive a letter from him, in which he stated he would very shortly move to Brooklyn and become their settled pastor. Reports from there confirmed my judgment, that he was the man for the place, and is giving satisfaction. Udell, being without a pastor, when I visited them last December, I succeeded in securing the services of sister Flora, to preach for them, until such a time as they could get a settled pastor to assume charge over the flock at that place. Here is a good field, and one that should do a great work for the Master. I am sorry however to have to report that in the past, with them, as altogether too many places, difficulties have arisen, that very much hindered the work, but on the 8th of last June, I called our dear Brother Livengood to assist me at a business meeting for them, and all things were amicably, and as we hope, and believe, settled as we think according to the Gospel, and that the work will go on to the glory of God, and the up-building of the cause there.

In April, I visited Cero Gordo, Ill., and preached for them one sermon. We have here a promising field, and a few live members who are pushing the work. Recently Brother Flora of Indiana held for them a series of meetings, and baptised three. I went from Cero Gordo to Astoria, Ill., where I preached ten days, fourteen sermons, and baptised three, all of whom add considerable strength to the cause there. This place has never had a pastor, and only a few meetings in the several years they have been members of the Church, but have held their membership in the Lanark Church. At this meeting, I, by the request of the members, ordained brother B. F. Schisler as minister, and Brother Fitz, as a deacon, and they elected sister Farria Fitz as their secretary, and will try to start a work, in the way of a Sunday school, and preaching as often as they may be able to provide it. The Astoria class numbers 15 members.

From Astoria, I went to Auburn, Ill., where I preached four sermons, received two by relation, and one by baptism. We have fifty three members in Auburn, and they have no pastor.

From Auburn, I went to Cornell, Ill., where a question of church government and discipline has been hanging for several years, and met brother Z. T. Livengood whom I had called to assist me in a business meeting which was held on the 16th of May. The

difficulty was apparently settled to the satisfaction of all, and as the work has suffered to such an extent at that place, perhaps owing to careless work by a former revivalist, in wrongly organizing the work, and as they cannot support a pastor in their present condition, we, by the consent of all the members present, placed the work under the District Missionary Board, which we thought best for them.

I again visited Brooklyn in May as mentioned above and ordained Brother Hannan, and baptised two. Brooklyn is now supplied with a resident pastor. We have yet in the district Aurelia, Ia., Udell, Ia., and Auburn, Ill., to supply with pastors. I attended the recent District Conference of Indiana, partly to see if we could not secure some more pastors for our district, but they who are consecrated to the work of the Lord, and could be recommended, are all engaged possibly with the exception of one or two, who may be open to a call.

It is noticeable, that pastors who have the qualifications, and consecration, and ability to carry the work on to success, are very busy, and just can not be had. Or if secured for a given place, it only means that some other church is left without a pastor. Brethren, we have no pastors to kill. And just here let me say, that if some of your local work does not go just to suit all the members that it is your duty to bear with your pastor, and also the pastor's duty to bear with you, that the work may go on.

One of the things that appalls us, as a church is the lack of proper discipline in some of our churches, which has in many cases been the immediate cause of them being without pastors. And where such is the case, it is very difficult to find a man who will undertake to care for a church, where all his predecessors have failed. I am sincerely glad that all over our brotherhood, the church is awaking to the fact, that Gospel Liberty is not unbridled license. It has been too much the idea, that if all does not go well, no matter who may be to blame, the thing to do, is to get a new pastor. But brethren, the day is near us, when this must stop. Enough churches have been ruined, and enough pastors have been discouraged, by the cheap, and decidedly ineffectual, and un-gospel method. "To the Word, and to the Testimony" "if they speak according" they are none of His, must soon be made the test, among us. I think on the whole, we are on the verge of a religious awakening, and certainly our work has never been on a better and more systematic basis, than now. Our missionary work is promising and of a much solidier, and more permanent type than heretofore has been the case.

Has the Evangelistic work in the district been successful? will be the question with us. According to the statistical report of Indiana, the average number of accessions for the year, was a little less than six to the church. And that of our own district, \_\_\_\_\_ While in Chicago, we have had six accessions by baptism, and several are now almost